

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The specification has been revised to conform it to the preferred format for U.S. patent applications as required in the Office Action, and a Substitute Specification and Comparison Copy are submitted herewith.

Claims 1-15 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, 4-6 and 8-15 have been amended.

Applicant notes with appreciation that claims 1-7 have been allowed.

Claims 8-15 were rejected for improper form because of the dependencies of claim 8. Claim 8 has been rewritten in independent form, thereby overcoming its deficiency. In view thereof, applicant requests that claims 8-15 be examined because amended claim 8 is in proper form.

Applicant submits that claims 8-15 are allowable for the same reasons why claims 1-7 have been allowed.

CONCLUSION

Applicant therefore submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and a formal notification to that effect at an early date is requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at (415) 273-4730 (direct dial).

Respectfully submitted,



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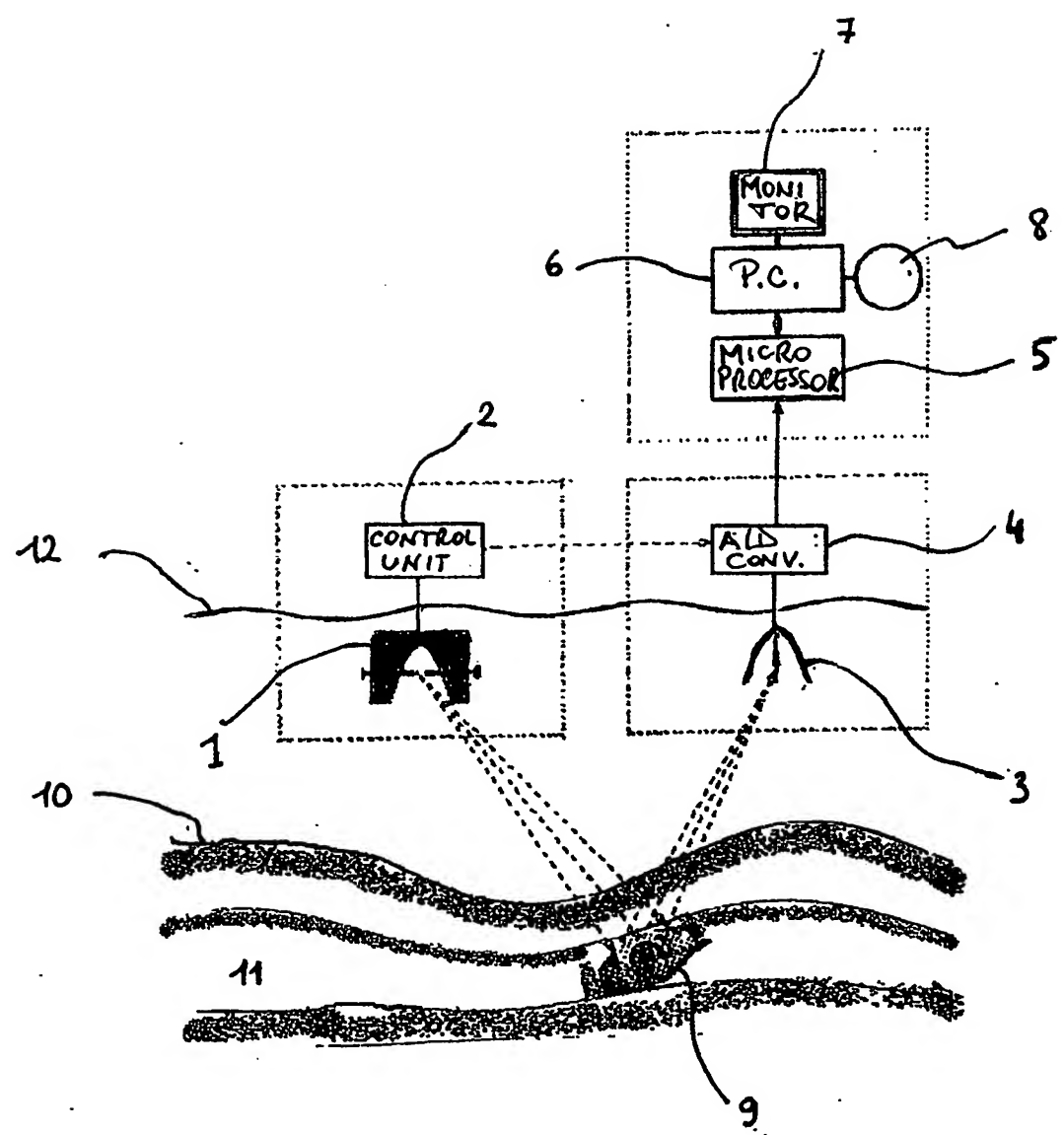


Fig 1